

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00092 101647Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 EB-07 FAA-00 DOTE-00 CAB-02 EURE-00 /061 W
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O R 101625Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9487
DOD WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
RUEHIA WASHDC 4739
USEUCOM VAHINGEN, GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0092

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, SW
SUBJECT: GOS RETHINKS ITS RESPONSE TO ALLEGED NEAR COLLISION OF
US AND SOVIET AIRCRAFT

REF, STOCKHOLM 0067 (DTG 081620Z)

1. REFTEL AND PREVIOUS DESCRIBED GOS INVESTIGATORY
ACTIVITY IN RESPONSE TO ALLEGED NEAR COLLISION OF US AND
SOVIET AIRCRAFT OVER BALTIC ON JANUARY 5. EXTENSIVE
MEDIA REPORTING INDICATED THAT A CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY
COMMISSION HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP
OF GORAN STEEN, THAT STEEN HOPED TO MAKE CONTACT WITH
THE CREWS OF THE US AND SOVIET AIRCRAFT, AND WOULD BE
PREPARED TO GO TO THEIR RESPECTIVE BASES TO INTERVIEW
THEM.

2. ALL SUCH PLANNED ACTIVITY HAS NOW BEEN SHELVED
APPARENTLY. THE EMBASSY WAS INFORMED TODAY BY MFA
DIVISION CHIEF JAN LUNDAVIK (WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SOVIET
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AFFAIRS) THAT ALL MEDIA INTIMATIONS OF PLANNED
GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAVE PROVEN INCORRECT. THERE WILL
NOT BE AN INVESTIGATION COMMISSION AND THERE WILL BE NO
THOUGHT GIVEN TO INTERVIEWING THE CREWS HERE OR AT THEIR
RESPECTIVE BASE LOCATIONS. LUNDAVIK SAID (RATHER
SHEEPISHLY) THAT THE FIRST DECISIONS MADE IN THIS CASE

WERE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT SWEDISH MILITARY PLANE HAD BEEN INVOLVED. HE ADDED HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT THE FIRST STEPS WERE INAPPROPRIATE BECAUSE THEY WERE TAKEN BY RATHER LOW-RANKING PERSONNEL IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES; THEIR SUPERIORS BEING AWAY FROM THE STOCKHOLM AREA ON A LONG HOLIDAY WEEKEND.

3. LUNDAVIK CONFIRMED AGAIN THAT IN THE GOS OPINION, NO PROTEST HAD BEEN OR WAS LIKELY TO BE FILED WITH THE USG AS A RESULT OF THE JANUARY 5 INCIDENT AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO VIOLATION OF SWEDISH AIRSPACE. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOVIET PILOT'S ALLEGATION OF A NEAR MISS WITH A USAF AIRCRAFT MUST STILL BE INVESTIGATED. THE FORM OF THE INVESTIGATION AND BY WHAT BODY WAS NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, THE CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY BOARD AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WHEN CONCLUSIONS ARE REACHED ON HOW TO PROCEED, THE EMBASSY WILL BE INFORMED.
SMITH

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR SAFETY, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, ALLEGATIONS, CIVIL AVIATION, COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, INVESTIGATIONS, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT
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Sent Date: 10-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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